CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Vol. 3, No. 22 TORONTO, MAY 26, 1943 $2.00 Per Annum

Projectionists to Stay On Job

Booth Men Will Do Extra Work In Off Hours if Necessary

Projectionists will not be disturbed by the operation of the newest orders of Selective Service. The department has recognized their importance in keeping theatres going and agreed to status quo for them as long as the need remains.

The finding was made known after theatre men and William P. Covert, Canadian vice-president of the IATSE, discussed the matter with officials at Ottawa.

The projectionists, according to Covert, will make themselves available for jobs during their

(Continued on Page 2)

Columbia Crew At NY Session

Columbia's Canadian crew of executives, led by Louis Rosenfeld, were present in full force at the company's regional meeting in New York and heard Abe Montague, general sales manager, report the fine mark made by its product and the outstanding schedule planned for the next season.

During the season to come

(Continued on Page 2)

Theatre Men's Softball Loop

The Toronto Motion Picture and Theatre League, competing for the Digest trophy, is under way. It is composed of 20th Century, Regal Films, Empire-Universal and B & F.

Any one who wants to play can get in touch with Allan Kahn at Regal, Sid Cohen or Bill

(Continued on Page 4)

McManus to Ottawa, Shulman to Trenton

Steve McManus has been transferred by 20th Century Theatre from the Century, Trenton, Ont., to the Elgin, Ottawa. Irvin Shulman has replaced McManus.

Plan Second House For Prince Rupert

Prince Rupert, B.C., will have a second theatre just as soon as it is possible to obtain the necessary materials, according to Paul Aivazoff, former resident of that town. Prince Rupert's only theatre is the Capitol, a Famous Players house with a seating capacity of 708, which operates six days of the week. The town has a population of 7,000.

SHORT THROWS

20th-Fox will chop its schedule to 36 films, this season—26 top shots and 10 minor efforts. The total may be smaller than that, the go-sign going only to sure-fire and exploitable material. Big budgets will be the rule, the estimated total cost being between 30 and 35 millions. The most the studio ever spent before per season was 25 million, and that for 44 films. Schenck, studio chief, says that Fox will go into stage production in a big way, not limiting its legitimate ventures to screenable material.

* * *

USA theatres will register blood donors on a national scale . . . Big noise in the industry across the border is the predicted divorcement of theatres from distribution by the anti-trust division . . . RKO, which is having a bang-up season, starts eight new pictures at the end of June . . . William Goetz sold his 20th-Fox stock but will draw his $3,500 per week for six months after he quits.

* * *

The threatened rift among United Artists' owners seems to have blown over. . . . The Independent Theatre Owners Association of the USA has engaged the former mayor of New York, Jimmy Walker, as a special counsel in a fight against the higher rentals in the NY area. . . . MGM wants to make the Wendel Willkie book, "One World," which has sold 750,000 copies to date.

New Tax Method Gets Official OK

The return by cheque of the amusement tax, announced last week, has been officially approved by C. V. Norman of the Customs and Excise department. A letter to this effect will be sent out.

This removes the need of personal delivery.

Silverthorne Favors 'Swing Shift' Shows

Extended operation of movie houses to provide shows for late shift war workers where needed was favored by O. J. Silverthorne, head of the Ontario Motion Picture Bureau, in a speech before the Dominion Fire Prevention Association at the Seigniory Club, Quebec.

Silverthorne spoke on fire prevention in halls and theatres.

Mary Pickford On Canadian Tour

Mary Pickford, still one of the outstanding personalities of the motion picture world and an owner of United Artists, has returned to Canada, her native land, for a tour to stimulate sales in the Mary Pickford Bungalow Project. The plan is to raise $250,000 for three Canadian funds.

The idea, sponsored by the Lion's Club and the Gerrard Busi-

(Continued on Page 4)

Firestones Leave Odeon, Join 20th

Dissolution of the partnership of Firestone Theatre Enterprises and Odeon Theatres of Canada, which involved three theatres, was announced last week by Haskell Masters, general manager of the latter company.

The theatres formerly held jointly were the Mayfair and

(Continued on Page 4)

Fitzgibbons Thanks V-Loan Workers

The chairman of the Motion Picture Section of the National War Finance Committee, John J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian Corporation, expressed his appreciation of the work of theatre and film people during the recent Victory Loan.

"I would like provincial chairmen and others to know how appreciative I am of the really splendid support they gave the Victory Loan campaign through the Motion Picture Section, which I had the honor to lead," Mr. Fitzgibbons told Canadian Film Weekly.

"Members of our industry

(Continued on Page 2)

One Night Stand In Uxbridge, Ont.

The Uxbridge, Ontario, Town Council has granted permission to Mr. Bailie to use the town hall for a picture show every Saturday night.

The old Strand, which seats 230, has been dark for some time. Pete Barnes and Lou Davidson hold the Strand lease.

Gene Autry Re-Releases Boxoffice Natural!

The exhibitors and the public were right in demanding that REPUBLIC PICTURES re-release GENE AUTRY features selected from his greatest hits. The first three, "Boots and Saddles," "South of the Border" and "Gaucho Serenade" have been big boxoffice. There are eight Autrys with new prints and advtg. Contact your nearest EMPIRE-UNIVERSAL EXCHANGE.

Film Weekly
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HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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A Fair Attitude

At the moment it appears that Ottawa has issued follow-up instructions to supplement the original Compulsory Labor Transfer, thus providing temporary protection for the Canadian motion picture industry.

Projectionists will not be disturbed and they have promised to take up other tasks in their off-hours if called on. Bookers have received temporary deferments and a clarifying order may follow.

Haphazard treatment of the industry by Selective Service would eventually land on Ottawa's doorstep. Ottawa makes regular requests of the industry to serve each new campaign. It must protect the industry's ability to provide such service.

Aside from the moral and spiritual value of the screen, the machinery of the industry, the means of transferring thought, must be kept in first-class operating order.

The screen, like the press and radio, is a means of communication. A motion picture still in the can is as useless as a silent radio or an unread newspaper. A dark theatre is a dead cell. A theatre which depends on untrained people is a threat to the war effort and public safety.

You can't tear a house down unless you have something to serve the same purpose immediately. Not that the situation in the motion picture industry has approached that point. But it could. A department with powers as sweeping as that of the Selective Service could create a chaotic condition overnight with thoughtless use of its rights.

The structure of the motion picture industry is a highly-involved one. It was built through years of trial and error. The men and women who understand it took a long time to train.

If the industry means anything to Canada's war effort, these men and women must be kept where they can do the most good.

Many dignitaries and army officers attended the premiere at the Capitol Theatre, Quebec City of MGM's film on the French underground, "Assignment In Brittany." In the picture are: Paul Valliere, Henri Clement, Dewey Bloom, Capt. Antoine Masson, Lt.-Col. Menard, Paul H. Guimont, Jean Beaudorir and Maurice Valiquette.

Columbia Crew At NY Session

(Continued from Page 1)

Columbia intends to release 44 features, two of which will be in the AA category and two in BB. This is an ambitious program in view of the clipped schedules being announced by other studios.

Last season Columbia suddenly spurted forward with a string of hits which tied up the box office everywhere. Such films as "No Greater Sin," "My Sister Eileen" and "You Were Never Lovelier" caused long and continued lineups and "49th Parallel" hung up records everywhere. Quick to seize the interest attracted among exhibitors the studio came along with "The Commandos Strike at Dawn," "Something to Shout About" and "The Desperadoes."

The Canadians who heard Montague's announcement and praise were Herb Allen, Abe Cass, Harvey Harnick, Sam Glaser, all from head office in Toronto; William Elman, Montreal branch manager; I. Levitt, Winnipeg; and Nat Levant, Vancouver.

The 1940-41 budget will be doubled this year due to a tremendous increase in playing time. Extra time on Columbia features amounted to 3,600 days.

Since female stars predominate on the company's player lists and they are still on the job, the company was not hard hit by the war manpower situation which has troubled most of the major studios.

Montague stated there would be more Technicolor pictures than in previous years. There are six Columbia color pictures slated, their titles and budget figures to be announced at a New York meeting. Musicals and comedies will predominate with Arthur Schwartz handling the musicals. This schedule ties up with the announced policy of other major studios to ease production on war-angle films and concentrate on escapist product, now very much in public demand.

The new publicity method of using radio programs to boost product, which was used to good advantage on Columbia's comedy "The More The Merrier," soon to be released in Canada, will be continued with other pictures. Co-op advertising campaigns will also be continued, it was stated.

Before formulating its sales policy for the new season, the company made a country-wide survey and found that, despite longer runs, theatres need full programs.

Beach in RCAF

Ken Beach, treasurer for Western Theatres Limited, is now a Pilot Officer of the RCAF.

Industry Praised By Fitzgibbons

(Continued from Page 1)

spared neither time nor energy in bringing the importance of the Victory Loan to as many Canadians as we could reach," stated the chairman. "Exhibitors placed screens and theatres at the disposal of local committees, as well as financing payroll plans for their staffs. Theatre workers donated their services. Many managers led or shared the leadership of community committees and also sold bonds, in that way serving the local campaigns as well as the inter-industry effort.

"I am pleased to report that purchases within the industry exceeded those during any previous campaign.

"I consider that the motion picture industry of Canada played an important part in pushing the Victory Loan over the top. The triumph on the home front came at the same time as the victory in Africa. The success of the Allies was a reward to Canadians for their great support of past campaigns. The Victory Loan just concluded successfully, I am sure, is an investment in more and greater victories.

"Theatre and film workers," Mr. Fitzgibbons concluded, "deserve the special thanks of their fellow citizens. I can but express those of the Motion Picture Section and my own."

Projectionists to Stay on Job

(Continued from Page 1)

off-hours if Selective Service decides that they are needed at other tasks as well.

The rate of pay of projectionists is generally $1.20 per hour and it would inconvenience employers, it is opined, to have to meet it.

Covert said that negotiations with exhibitors for contract renewed with an increase of three dollars per week were coming along satisfactorily. Quite a few have been signed and it was felt that the Compulsory Transfer order, had it affected projectionists, would have upset things.

Selective Service boards have treated the cases of key industry men with consideration and leniency.

LAC Colbourne Dies On War Service

Paul Douglas Colbourne, leading aircraftsman with the RCAF and formerly an usher at the St. Clair Theatre, Toronto, has died on active service. He was born in Toronto 24 years ago and showed fine promise as an art student.

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 8, No. 22 COAST-TO-COAST COVERAGE May 26, 1943

'More the Merrier' Laugh Riot

'Rhythm On The Islands'

UNIVERSAL
(Running Time: 69 Mins.)

This one is strictly out of this world. That is, it belongs to the pre-war tourist world. There are lavish displays of food and a general unserlousness about life that's out of step with the times.

Nevertheless, it is a very entertaining musical, full of South Sea glamor, hula hula dancers, predacious white men and soft music.

Nice cast, too. Alan Jones is the phoney South Sea islander fooling the tourists. Andy Devine is his beachcombing pal. Jane Frazee, Ernest Truex, Marjorie Gateson, Acquanetta, the Step Brothers and the Horton Dancers keep it jumping. There are seven musical numbers.

Jones is trying to peddle an island to Truex, a ham king, and falls in love with his daughter, Frazee, who thinks he's a native.

The picture was apparently made before the Four Freedoms were announced but don't worry about it. Any audience will like it.

'Came to Blow Up America'

20th-FOX
(Running Time: 73 Mins.)

This is the story of those Axis saboteurs who landed on the Florida coast and were picked up by the FBI. It's an exciting film.

Though there are a number of second-rank actors in the film, leading light is George Sanders, who gives one of his rare presentations of a hero. Sanders is a Yankee spy who fools the Gestapo right in Berlin, mind you, and accompanies the saboteurs to America. His success is laid to a long apprenticeship in the Bund.

Sanders, because of his Nazi connections, is the despair of family and friends—until it is revealed that he was on our side all the time. In the end he puts the bracelets on his father's old pal, Sig Rumann.

In the large cast are Anna Sten, Ward Bond, Ludwig Stossel, Elsa Jansen and Etta McDaniel.

Plenty of excitement.

ARTHUR-McCREA AT BEST

COLUMBIA
(Running Time: 101 Mins.)

When it comes to that uncertain thing called screwball comedy Columbia has a way of landing on both feet. The studio doesn't make them often but when it offers one, that one hangs up records.

"The More the Merrier" is distinctly in the blue ribbon class. A more likeable and laughable film hasn't hit the screen in years. The theatre plaster will shimmy because of this one, not too much due to its occasional uproars but because of the unbroken succession of solid socks at the laughing bones of the patrons.

It is a picture without a villain, the complications of life in wartime Washington generating the entertaining friction that allows the inevitable finale of boy-gets-girl to be acceptably delayed. Its 101 minutes roars by quickly and without a slowdown.

Jean Arthur provides a distinguished display of character acting as the precise but bewildered secretary engaged to her boss and interested in Joel McCrea. Charles Coburn is excellent as the comic busybody acting as an agent of Cupid. An outstanding script, prize direction and flawless performances by a cast small enough to follow easily are the main reasons for the fine total result.

The story is a natural, being tied up with the times on the home front. Jean Arthur, feeling it her duty to help relieve the Washington housing situation, wants to share her apartment. Charles Coburn, an important business man, can't get hotel space. He outwits the crowd waiting to answer Miss Arthur's classified ad and pressures her into sub-letting part of her apartment to him.

Coburn, a likeable codger, scrapes up a friendship with Joel McCrea, another victim of the housing situation. The older man shares his half with McCrea. Miss Arthur's reaction to all this is interesting and entertaining.

There you have two men and a woman sharing the same apartment—and nothing going on that will attract the Hays Office. An unusual situation—and it provides an unusual picture.

Richard Gaines, as the stuffy fiance of Jean Arthur, is the outstanding member of the rest of the cast.

'Slightly Dangerous'

REGAL
(Running Time: 94 Mins.)

The following of Lana Turner will find this one to its liking—and she enjoys the loyalty of many. Those whose chief attraction is Robert Young have learned to expect better than this from him, particularly since his splendid performance in "Journey For Margaret."

The theme here, that of the ambitious shopgirl with the heart of gold, has remained unused for a long time, its screen frequency having almost vanished when Joan Crawford went on to more significant things. But though thoroughly familiar, it is light, frothy and gay. Because of its escapist nature it will be enjoyed by most.

Turner is the semi-drab shopgirl of steady habits who wants to live. The boredom of exemplary business conduct as a soda jerk overcomes her. She breaks loose with an unseemly demonstration in the store where she works and is fired by Young, the new manager.

The ex-shopgirl leaves town, a note from her giving the impression that she has suicided. Young feels terrible about all this. Turner bluffs her way into the New York big time, pretending to be the long missing daughter of a socialite family and fooling the folks.

Young catches up with her and the jig is up. Love sets in, the socialite family forgives her and everything is okay.

A good cast does much to keep it fairly interesting. Walter Brennan, Dame May Whitty, Eugene Pallette and Alan Mowbray are around.

'I Escaped The Gestapo'

MONOGRAM
(Running Time: 74 Mins.)

Monogram's excellent cast, a strong title and a somewhat unusual story does much to move this into top spot rating for strong double bills in more important houses. The story, though it tells of a criminal redeemed through service to his country against Axis spies, is well worked out and threads its way to several new backgrounds and situations.

Dean Jagger is the escaped convict, an ace counterfeiter, who is imprisoned by those who helped free him, Axis agents. His job is to forge money and passports. He wises to the idea and works for Uncle Sam after that.

The gang has its headquarters at an amusement park run by the spy chief, John Carradine. A home recording booth is used to pick up loose information placed on the discs by careless soldiers and sailors in their messages home. Mary Brian, a girl employee, is the love interest and Carlyle Blackwell one of the gang.

It's a good minor picture.

'Duffy's Tavern'

Leo Spitz and Jack Skirball will release both the Fred Allen and Duffy's Tavern pictures through United Artists. Before they finally closed the deal Spitz and Skirball negotiated with several major studios for distribution of their properties.

United Artists 'Lady of Burlesque'

In last week's issue this department described "Lady of Burlesque" as coming from an exchange other than United Artists. The film, a merry melange of music, mystery and mirth, is being distributed by United Artists.

The score—1 hit (UA), 1 error (us).

Owen Lightstone, manager of the Orpheum, Montreal, reports that "Lady of Burlesque" opened to big business, the house reaching capacity by noon.

Mary Pickford On Canadian Tour

(Continued from Page 1)

ness Men's Association of Toronto, was given its first impetus when a Toronto property owned by Miss Pickford was sold for $5,000 and the money used to set things in motion. East York, a Toronto suburb, donated land and a $10,000 bungalow was built at O'Connor Drive and Glenwood Crescent.

Miss Pickford arrived in Toronto on May 21st. On the 22nd she attended the running of the King's Plate at the Woodbine. She left Toronto on the 25th, visited Peterboro, Ont., on the 26th. In Montreal on the 30th, the next day she will appear at a great share-selling rally in the Verdun Auditorium, where a two-and-a-half-hour show will be staged. Before going to Quebec Miss Pickford returns to Toronto for a banquet in her honor given by the Lion's Club at the King Edward Hotel.

Fifty per cent. of the proceeds will go to the Lion's British Child War Victims Fund, the headquarters of which is the Waifs and Strays Home, London, England. Forty per cent. will be donated to the Evening Telegram War Victims Fund and 10 per cent to Maltese Relief, the latter work being carried on by the Maltese people in Canada.

The Mary Pickford Honeymoon Bungalow project was originated by the Gerrard Business Men's Association last year, during which term Harry Lester, operator of the Bonita Theatre, Toronto, was president. Lester is now Public Appearance Chairman. Desiring to extend the sale of shares, the Lion's Club, a national organization with 5,000 members was invited to join the work.

The head office of United Artists in Toronto, through Dave Coplan, sent Ben Cronk out to arrange the tour. Cronk worked with committees from the organizations and Sam Clark, Miss Pickford's personal representative, who came to Canada one week ahead of her.

Pursel to Re-Locate Lyric, Simcoe, Ont.

Fred Pursel, old time member of the Pioneers Club, who has operated the Lyric Theatre, Simcoe, for the past 34 years, has purchased a garage on Robinson Street and has received a construction permit to re-locate the old theatre on the new site. Work will commence very shortly and the theatre will be opened on or about August 1st.

Theatre Holding Corporation will continue to be associated with Pursel in this situation.

He Knew Another Day Well

The presence of the late George M. Cohan at Shea's, on celluloid and impersonated by Jim Cagney, brings to mind one of my favorites among the old-timers, Dick McAvoy. I haven't seen Dick around for some time. He has probably surrendered somewhat to age and is taking it easy. Or he may be working somewhere as a theatre doorman, a post he has held frequently in the past few years.

Back in 1888, Dick, a local boy, became a vaudeville actor and was soon joined by the partner, Alice, who became his wife. The team worked for Tony Pastor and shared audiences with the elder Barrymore, Lillian Russell and George M. Cohan, among others. No one in Toronto knew George M. Cohan better than Dick, whose reminiscences of days that are gone are worthy of being put out in book form.

Dick could turn out tunes with the best of them in the old days and Witmark published several of them. In 1903 he wrote "The Racetrack Sport." It's about a lad "who once was bright and gay, until he got among the sports—and he was led astray."

The chorus tells how and contains a large number of witty lines such as these:

"He bet on a horse named Umbrella; Umbrella was good in the wet,
And he bet on a horse called Niagara—Niagara is running yet!"

Other actors used the song and the audience loved to take up the lyrics, especially these concluding lines:

"He bet on many horses, and that I will allow,
But he's through betting on horses—he's in the asylum now!"

Now that hoofs are beating out a daily tattoo of hope and despair at the Woodbine, I recommend Dick McAvoy's musical wisdom to some of the citizens of The Square.

* * *

The Reward of Rank

Lieut. Ted Greenslade, ex-newspaper correspondent, dropped in the other day for a chat. Ted enlisted as a private in the Tank Corps. He has many theatre friends.

He told about a visit to Buffalo last summer, during which he wore the summer issue, featured by shorts.

A youngster spoke to him. Ted replied politely. "I belong to Troop 98 of the Boy Scouts," said the boy. 'What troop do you belong to?"

* * *

Atta Girl, Rohama!

Rohama Lee, who used to journalize around these parts and is now a Hollywood script writer, gave a movie knocker what for and why not the other day. One Northrop Frye, writing in the Canadian Forum, opined that movie music wasn't much.

Rohama, a music lover and a Hollywood loyalist, wrote to the Forum from the Cinema City and fried Frye. She hit him verbally on the cocoa. Wrote Rohama:

"I don't profess to know nearly all there is to know about motion pictures, but I do know quite a bit about them. I should. I've served them for almost 12 years now, in many capacities—secretary to a distributor, a producer, a writer; publicity woman; reader; now a writer with experience in England and Hollywood, in features and in short subjects. And, while I wouldn't think of setting myself up against Mr. Oscar Levant, even he admits that what he says is 'A Smattering of Ignorance.' Nobody knows everything. But Mr. Frye SHOULD know more if he wants to write about music in the movies. He seems never to have heard of Miklas Raczas, for instance, whose score for "Jungle Book" has been recorded, and several times performed by outstanding symphony orchestras in this country. Nor does he know, apparently, that the music of movies IS listened to by producer and ultimate consumer: witness the annual Academy Award for score, orchestration, best 'popular' numbers, etc."

Rohama just copped a screen credit for her work on "Tonight We Bomb Calais," for Fox. She spent some time in England, where she did a picture for Gracie Fields. Her first job in Hollywood was as secretary to Louella Parsons.

Theatre Men's Softball Loop

(Continued from Page 1)

Devitt at Empire-Universal, Ted Smith at the York Theatre, Al Perly at the Midtown or Murray Sasloff at the Ace Theatre.

RULES

1. Games called for. 10 a.m Sunday.

Rain is only reason for postponement and schedule drops back a week.

2. Each team will be allowed to field no more than two players not connected with the industry and they must not be from any organized league on the basis that the team cannot field a full nine-man team.

3. All players must be directly connected with the film industry in Toronto with the exception of the two outside players previously mentioned.

4. Any player that is drafted into the armed forces or selective service will be allowed to play as they are only on leave of absence from their respective firms.

5. Softballs for the games will be supplied by the home teams.

6. During the game the umpire's decision is final.

SCHEDULE

May 23rd—B. & F. vs. *Twentieth Century; *Regal Films vs. Empire Universal.

May 30th—*B. & F. vs. Empire Universal; *Twentieth Century vs. Regal Films.

June 6th—B. & F. vs. *Regal Films; *Twentieth Century vs. Empire Universal.

June 13th—*B. & F. vs. Twentieth Century; Regal Films vs. * Empire Universal.

June 20th—B. & F. vs. *Empire Universal; Twentieth Century vs. *Regal Films.

(*) Stands for home team.

Firestones Leave Odeon, Join 20th

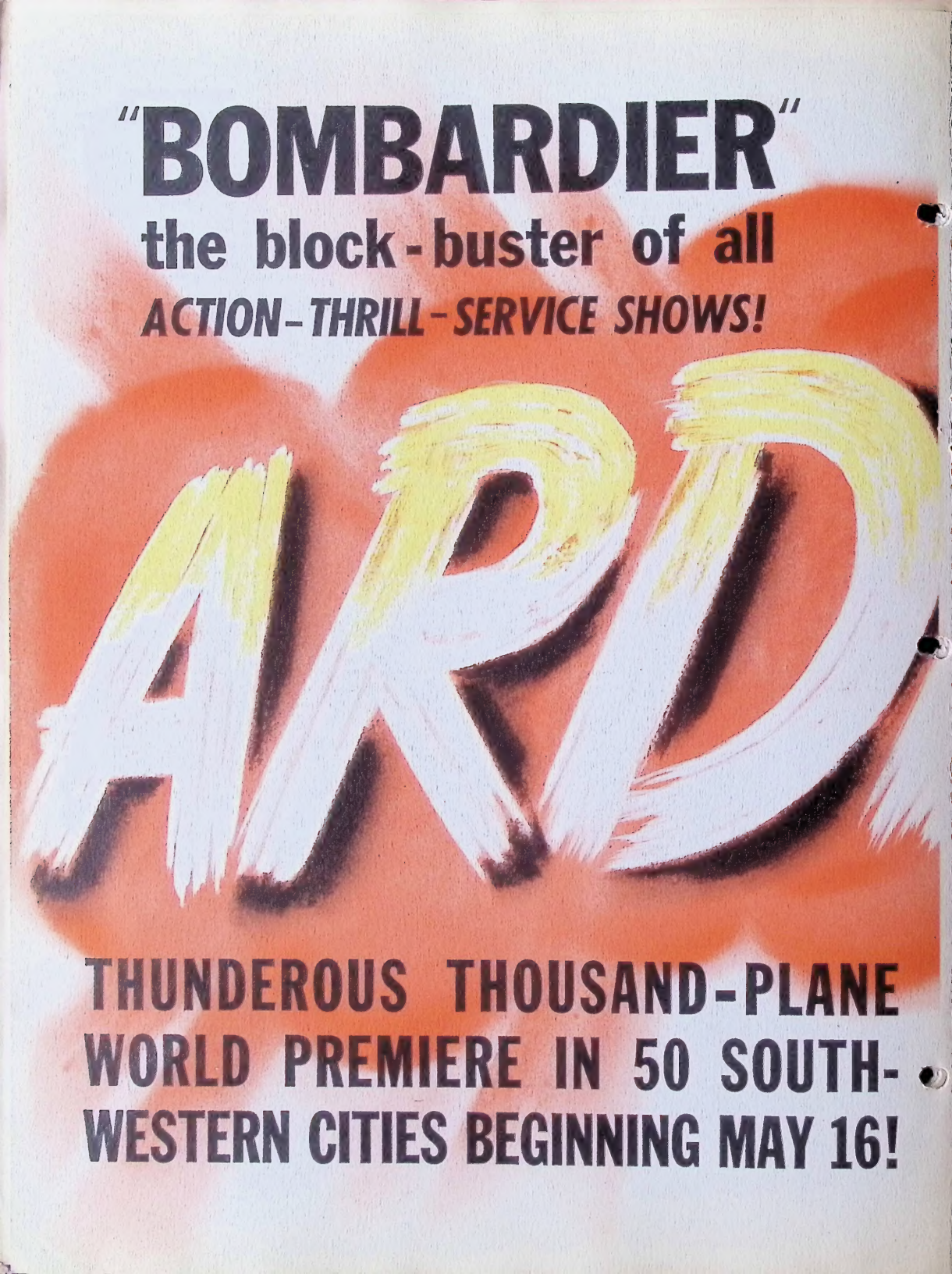
(Continued from Page 1)

Esquire, Toronto; and the Esquire, Brantford, Ontario.

The Firestones, Sam and Harry, have associated themselves with 20th Century Theatres, the houses released through the dissolution of the Odeon deal becoming part of the chain.

The Firestones and 20th Century Theatres have had joint interests in the past. They are mutually interested in the Midtown, Toronto neighborhood deluxer.

Watch for the box-office EXPLOSION of RKO Radio's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ACTION-THRILL-SERVICE SHOWS!
ARD
THUNDEROUS THOUSAND-PLANE
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WESTERN CITIES BEGINNING MAY 16!

Sponsored by the TEXAS QUALITY NETWORK . . . a blanket barrage of radio coverage in a round-the-clock bombardment of sensational "spot" and "show" promotions . . . A gigantic showmanship push spearheaded by the spectacular events at Albuquerque, N. M., and for the Army Air Forces at nearby Kirt land Field, N. M., where much of the picture was filmed!

AND HERE ARE JUST SOME OF THE CITIES:

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AUSTIN
WACO
McALLEN
WICHITA FALLS
DONNA
DENTON
SAN MARCOS
BIG SPRINGS
DALLAS
EL PASO
GALVESTON
SAN BENITO
TEMPLE
MERCEDES
PARIS
SHERMAN
LUBBOCK
FT. WORTH
AMARILLO
CORPUS CHRISTI
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HARLINGEN
CORSICANA
TYLER
MUSKOGEE
MIDLAND
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...told in a blasting bomb-run of romance and thrills...in the story of a lovely girl—and of three fliers who knew how to make a direct hit on a woman's heart!... The mighty picture that shows the making of the boys now making it hot for the Axis!

RANDOLPH SCOTT as the cocky, lone-wolf pilot, waging a one-man war of his own.

PAT O'BRIEN as the devil-may-care bombing trainer, with his fighting eye on Tokyo.

WALTER REED as the Bombardier Cadet, caught between the two veteran rivals.

SEE THE BOMBING OF TOKYO RIGHT BEFORE YOUR VERY EYES!!!!

BOMBARDIER

STARRING

PAT O'BRIEN
RANDOLPH SCOTT
ANNE SHIRLEY • EDDIE ALBERT

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Produced by ROBERT FELLOWS • Directed by RICHARD WALLACE

Screen Play by JOHN TWIST

LITHO U.S.A.

Manitoba Fight To Be Renewed

Though Manitoba theatre men won a victory when restrictive juvenile legislation, proposed by a bloc in which the Manitoba Educational Association is prominent, failed to pass the house, the fight is beginning all over again. This became apparent by the sentiments expressed through members at the annual meeting in Winnipeg, at which O. V. Jewitt was elected president.

A resolution was passed endorsing a letter sent to the association by the better movies committee of Greater Winnipeg to the effect that children under 14 be prohibited from attending movie shows classified as adult. The committee pointed out that it had been trying to get legislation passed on this matter to no avail.

Mr. Jewitt remarked that for the last five or six years the Local Council of Women of Winnipeg have attempted to get community theatres to put on shows on Saturday afternoons suitable for children. "Movie operators said they would co-operate if they could get general pictures," he said, "and we . . . for I have assisted the council in the matter . . . got co-operation from some but others said they could get nothing but adult pictures."

"We procured elaborate promises from the distributors. For a month the theatres would show general pictures Saturday afternoons, and then they would slip back to adult pictures. The attorney-general, Mr. Justice Major, issued a general threat to them and for three months the movie operators granted our request and then again went back to adult pictures," said Mr. Jewitt.

Manitoba legislators were satisfied that the arguments used in behalf of restrictive rulings were exaggerated.

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2037 BLEURY STREET MONTREAL

Theatres Suffer Ill-Timed Jibes

It seems that theatres can't go about the business of performing patriotic duties without occasional ill-timed criticism from uninformed individuals in locally important positions.

In Newmarket, Ontario, the Strand Theatre found itself being panned by members of the Town Council and the secretary of Boy Scouts Association. Not long ago the same thing happened in Kitchener, Ontario. In both towns the theatres held successful fat matinees after objections were overcome or withdrawn.

The Newmarket Council relied on the opinions of W. A. Spear, secretary of the Newmarket Boy Scouts Association, which were completely in error and were corrected by M. D. McPhee, manager of the Strand.

"Do you consider house to house collections better or the picture show?" a member of the Council asked.

"House to house collections," was the amazing answer of Spear. "There is not much in a show after the prizes come out."

In his answer Spear, who represented the Newmarket Home and School Association, revealed either ignorance or prejudice, since everything to do with the theatre was given free. Prizes for the children were donated by merchants.

"What is the theatre's idea?" asked Reeve Lundy.

"They are doing it for advertising," replied Spear.

In March the Strand collected 850 lbs. of fat at a matinee and last week a similar show brought 800 lbs. Both figures are gross. Rubber taken in to date amounted to 2,800 lbs.

Manager McPee replied to Spear's misstatements in a letter to the Newmarket Era & Express, a part of which follows:

"The statement in last week's Era and Express, 'There is not much in a show after the prizes come out,' suggests that prizes were an expense to the salvage committee.

"Both matinees held in co-operation with the local salvage committee were supplied gratis by the Strand theatre. I personally collected money from the merchants for the prizes, which were given out on two occasions in the form of war stamps and the last time in cash. Film, time of the staff and running expenses were all provided free through the theatre, so that there was no expense whatsoever to the sponsors of these shows.

"The same report also stated that the idea behind these shows was advertising. These shows, specifically the last one, were run in practically every theatre across Canada and were made possible by the national film industry of Canada with but one objective in mind, the national war effort. In all cases the proceeds were devoted to war charities.

"No doubt these shows have been good advertising, but if considered as advertising they have been expensive advertising. Our only purpose in holding these shows has been to play our part in the winning of the war. Just like everybody else today, we are anxious to do our share."

The number of irresponsible statements about films and theatres that come from responsible people is surprising. The Newmarket matter was one of a number of similar snags.

Russian Fund Appreciates Help

The recent report of the Canadian Aid to Russia Fund praises the part played in its drive by the motion picture industry of Canada.

As an introduction to a statement by Herb Allen, chairman of the motion picture industry's Aid to Russia committee, the report states:

"Deep appreciation is here recorded of the splendid job which the motion picture industry did for the Fund. No greater co-operation could have been expected and the time and services generously given by this important industry has played its part in securing most satisfactory results for the Fund."

Canada Gave Much To Greek Relief

Canada can be proud of the assistance it has rendered the starving Greek people, our heroic Allies.

Mr. Justice Gordon of Regina, chairman of the National Executive of the Canadian Red Cross, who has just returned from Britain, issued the following message to Canadians from the head of the Greek Red Cross Society:

"The Canadian people without a doubt saved the Greek people from extinction, and with your Red Cross aid, we are trying to keep the survivors in reasonable health."

Spyros Skouras, chief of 20th Century-Fox, heads Greek Relief in the United States.

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Scarlet Pimpernel
Leslie Howard, Merle Oberon, Raymond Massey

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Robert Donat, Jean Parker, Eugene Pallette

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Charles Laughton, Robert Donat, Merle Oberon

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She saw her Patriotic Duty ... and she Dood it!

Shared her kitchen and bath with *two* strange men...

Did the F. B. I. understand?
Did her fiance understand?
Joe...that is, Mr. Carter...
did he understand?

only **DINGLE** *understood!*

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Directed by GEORGE STEVENS · A COLUMBIA PICTURE

only "The More The Merrier" has a **DINGLE!**

No other picture can make this claim!

A Columbia PICTURE

930 Scripts Read By Hays' Office

It's a long way between the typewriter and the camera for many film scripts. A great number don't make it. Last year the Hays office sifted 546 scripts for production out of the 930 feature scripts presented for examination.

Although three appeals on New York office ruling were reviewed and rejected by the Hays board, there were no appeals taken on any decisions handed down by the Hollywood office. Turned down in their original form, 27 scripts or treatments for feature pictures were rewritten to conform with code provisions and 18 completed features, originally rejected, were later revised and approved.

Of the pictures approved, a breakdown by type reveals that 215 were of the melodrama variety, 112 were westerns, 80 dramas, 65 comedies, 57 miscellaneous and 17 crime subjects.

Companies which are members of the organization presented 616 of the 683 short subjects approved in 1942. Of the total, 67 were approved for non-member companies.

There were only two violations in the advertising Code Administration in 1942. One was by a non-member producer. The other, by a member company, was the first violation of that sort since 1933.

Compared with 472 the previous year, the number of discarded or revised ads last year totalled 313, representing 3.21 per cent of the 10,099 advertisements submitted in 1942.

All but two of the 508 completed press book campaigns submitted were approved. There were 539 press books submitted in 1941, more than in 1942, but a greater number were rejected in the previous year.

Keep Movies Going In B.C. Sticks

The following notice from the Bridge River-Lillooet News, British Columbia, reveals how the times have affected movies in some sections:

"Contrary to rumors otherwise, the Log Cabin will carry on with a weekly show until further notice. In view of the condition of citizens who either cannot or would not be able to go elsewhere for recreation and the closing of the local licensed premises, also the rationing of so many other things that used to be classed as a luxury, the management will endeavour to provide weekly respite through good pictures. Some of the very latest and best pictures are booked, and will be shown from week to week, until further notice in these columns."

So you want to write for the screen?

Don't—until you understand the difficulties involved. There isn't anywhere to learn screen technique but a studio. If you apply for a job in person they'll tell you to go home and get a reputation. Hollywood story departments scan almost all printed matter for possible screen material.

If you mail your story in it will be returned unopened. Studios tremble in fear of lawsuits for stealing stories. How do they buy stories or hire writers? Through agents.

If an agent considers your talents worthy of his representation, he'll try to sell your story. If he sells your story he'll try to get you on for a trial. If he's successful his reward is ten per cent of everything you earn.

Hollywood needs writers now. But you'll have to prove yourself to an agent first—or get stuff into print.

* * *

Cinema City sight: Arthur Murray and Groucho Marx skating along with red lights on the heels of their skates. . . . Hollywood super-markets have their advertising written cleverly by authors who sign them like magazine articles. . . . I remember once going to the opening of a market in Hollywood. Searchlights poking about the sky, orchestras and personal appearances of stars opened it. Another such show was put on for a dog cafe, where you had your pooch fed. But the war has wiped out all that nonsense. . . . Lionel Barrymore, who just passed his 65th birthday, was a pal of the most famed heavyweight boxing champion of all time, the late John L. Sullivan.

* * *

In "Stage Door Canteen" a new star shines above the dozens in the picture, which was made to help canteens in the USA and Canada. She's 22-year-old Cheryl Walker, who has been in films for five years, though her face has never been shown.

Her legs acted for those of Paulette Goddard in the log-rolling scene in "Forest Rangers." When Dorothy Lamour walked barefoot through the jungle in a recent picture, the feet were Cheryl's. Everything about her but her face has helped some star look better. And she has a lovely face, adorned with blue eyes and red hair.

When she got her chance she was earning $25 per week working as an extra in a Preston Sturges production.

* * *

"Gone With the Wind," which was first shown four years ago, is back on Broadway and lining them up. . . . There have been so many theatre burglaries of late that managers don't sleep well any more. . . . Though many stars are gone for the duration, it will be quite a while before you miss them on the screen. Hollywood has been working overtime to build up a stock of new features and they will be rationed out carefully in the future. . . . Men and women in the armed services now see the newest films as soon as released. Until now the films were of the same vintage as the ones shown at neighborhood theatres. . . . Proof of the hunger of the public for motion picture entertainment are the requests of several towns that theatres be established in them. It isn't easy. Ottawa ruled that no more theatres can be erected. However, several new theatres have sprung up along the Alaska Road.

No Confirmation of Halifax Purchase

The reported purchase by Odeon Theatres of property in Halifax for the building of a future theatre has received no confirmation from head office. Haskell Masters, general manager of Odeon, has refused to give the report official status.

He did say that the recent addition of two British Columbia houses, the Marpole and Lonsdale, would be followed by other important links.

A Smart Fellow This Ritchie

Two would-be burglars of the Alhambra, Toronto, are serving jail terms. They owe their sojourn to sharpness of Manager Al Ritchie, who really out-noodled them without being there.

Ritchie hooked the inside lights up with the outside ones, which lit up when the door was forced. The thieves didn't even know that the cop had spotted the illuminated tipoff.

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THE 39 STEPS
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THUNDER OVER THE CITY
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STRANGER FROM PECOS
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SPY TRAIN
Richard Travis
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SARONG GIRL
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